

## **INTERNET MINISTRY TOOLS**

This is a list of resources that my colleagues have shared with me in preparation for the "Internet Ministry & Accessing Resources for Ministry" workshop led by Rev. Steve Johnston ([steve@webfeed.ca](mailto:steve@webfeed.ca)) at *The R. Alex Sim Rural Ministry Symposium 2010* ([www.ruralsymposium.ca](http://www.ruralsymposium.ca)). Additional resources gathered at the workshop can be found at [www.ruralsymposium.ca](http://www.ruralsymposium.ca) after the event (25-27 October 2010).

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### **a) Worship Preparation**

<http://www.worshipconnection.cokesbury.com/content.aspx?dyn=1818>

Cokesbury Worship Planning by the United Methodist Publishing House:

- FREE Worship Services & Lectionary aids
- Worship elements based on the lectionary and other special days.
- calls to worship, responsive readings, words of assurance, benedictions, and more.
- Circuit Rider online - Sermon Starters.

[www.worship.ca](http://www.worship.ca)

Lift Up Your Hearts, and ELCIC (Lutheran) site. Especially see "Worship Workbench" by Pastor Paul Bosch:

<http://worship.ca/workbench.html>

<http://www.laughingbird.net/ComingWeeks.html>

South Yarra Community Baptist Church in Melbourne, Australia – A source of lectionary prayers:

- Scripture Lections
- Prayers
- Eucharistic Preface
- Declaration of Grace / Absolution
- Commission & Benediction
- Sermons

[http://www.gbod.org/site/c.nhLRJ2PMKsG/b.3879973/k.9C35/Lectionary\\_Planning\\_Helps\\_for\\_Sundays.htm?override=yes&date=20101010](http://www.gbod.org/site/c.nhLRJ2PMKsG/b.3879973/k.9C35/Lectionary_Planning_Helps_for_Sundays.htm?override=yes&date=20101010)

United Methodist lectionary planning helps: An agency of The United Methodist Church, GBOD (The General Board of Discipleship) helps local church, district, and conference leaders fulfill the shared dream of making world-changing disciples.

<http://www.io.com/~kellywp/CalndrsIndexes/Calendar2010.html>

A Liturgical calendar for the year 2010 - With Links to the Lessons From the Episcopal Lectionary and the Revised Common Lectionary. Texts are ready for cutting and pasting into worship guides etc.

<http://www.creativeworshiptour.com/>

The Creative Worship Tour is a network of visual, musical and creative worship people discussing and imagining new possibilities for worship. We hope it becomes a place for you to find ideas and support, and also a place for you to share your very best thoughts about creativity in worship.

### **b) Images and Pictures**

[Gráficos Imágenes](#)

A Catholic site from South America - Catholic Lectionary based thumbnails. It's almost like the RCL with a few quirks. It is a three year cycle - Spanish Language

[La página de Cerezo Barredo](#)

A South American Catholic website with RCL Images often quite social justice oriented.

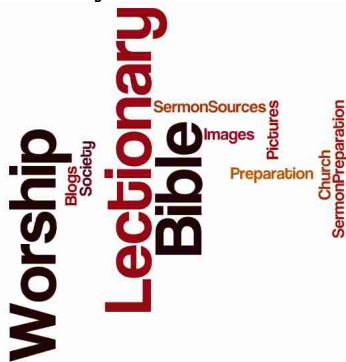
<http://www.cruzblanca.org/hermanoleon/by/>

Clipart: from the Roman Catholic/Franciscans from Spain - really good black and white clipart - free for using.

<http://www.deutsch-girl.com/>: Free Lutheran Clipart  
Lutheran clip art - a bit sparse but usable.

<http://www.wordle.net/create>

A site that rearranges words in to a graphic form that can make interesting worship guide covers or screen images based your list of words. The words get larger if you repeat them in your list.



### c) Bible & Lectionary

[Bible Study Tools Online, Verses, 40+ Versions, Commentaries, Concordances](http://www.biblestudytools.com/)

Commentaries and multiple translation of the Scripture

<http://bible.oremus.org/>

NRSV on line. Helpful for quick finds and preparation of sermons, worship, etc.

<http://www.biblegateway.com/>

Multiple versions of the bible including: The Message, Contemporary English, Good News, King James, New International.

<http://interlinearbible.org/>

Interlinear Bible: Greek, Hebrew, Transliterated, English

[http://satucket.com/lectionary/When Will It Be Read.htm](http://satucket.com/lectionary/When_Will_It_Be_Read.htm)

This compilation gives the Sunday readings keyed to Bible verses so you can find out when a text will be read in the lectionary.

### d) Sermon Preparation - Lectionary Research and Commentary

<http://www.workingpreacher.org/>

Here's what they say about themselves: The web's newest, most helpful, and downright coolest resource for preachers. In short, we're out to inspire better preaching! We're getting at that by offering timely, compelling, and trustworthy content for today's working preachers. Further, we're doing all this for free, as a ministry of the Center for Biblical Preaching at Luther Seminary, St. Paul's. That's right - all these resources are **free**, given away to inspire more faithful and creative proclamation of the Word!

[www.desperatepreacher.com](http://www.desperatepreacher.com)

Paid parts: For about \$30/year (US) you get sermons, childrens' chats, that sort of thing. Free parts: Lectionary Forum based on the Revised Common Lectionary readings for each week coming up. Preachers from all over North America have often lively discussions that provided some fodder for a weekly sermon.

[www.sermonwriter.com](http://www.sermonwriter.com)

Sermon writer is another lectionary based resource and for around \$34 per year you get exegesis, illustrations, adult's and children's sermons.

[www.sermonillustrations.com](http://www.sermonillustrations.com)

An alphabetical resource of true stories; reflections, quote ... makes for great illustrations.

[www.textweek.com](http://www.textweek.com)

Also see [Textweek Blog](#) and their [Facebook Page: The Text This Week](#),

Lectionary based and index resources:

- Texts
- Images and Movies
- Commentary, Exegesis & Sermon Preparation
- Recommended articles from ATLAS
- Lectionary Reflections, Discussions & Weblogs
- Sermons
- Group Studies & Discussion/Reflection Questions
- Complete Liturgies (including hymns & prayers)
- Prayers, Prefaces, Litanies, etc
- Graphics and Multimedia
- Bulletin Inserts
- Hymns & Music
- With Children
- Children's Bulletins
- Drama

<http://montreal.anglican.org/comments/>

Commentaries on the Revised Common Lectionary. A ministry of the Anglican Diocese of Montreal, Canada. Also includes:

- Introductions to the lections intended for use by the reader in worship.
- Book Outlines

<http://thehardestquestion.org/>

The most difficult question for lectionary preachers and teachers is simply this: What fresh and compelling word of the Lord for my congregation can be found in the lectionary readings of the day? Perhaps you've been through Years A, B, and C for more than a few cycles. Or maybe the demands of ministry in the trenches have left you short on both time and inspiration.

#### **e) Sermon Sources**

<http://day1.org/>

Host Peter Wallace is the voice of the mainline Protestant churches. Through sermons, blogs, and video & audio resources,

Day1 proclaims a passionate faith for thinking people.

<http://www.rockies.net/~spirit/sermons/year-c-sermons.php>

That's a resource for Year A, B, C, plus extras ... and it's free.

<http://www.sermonindex.net/>

Revival type sermons

<http://www.sermonsfromseattle.com/>

Pastor Edward F. Markquart, pastor of Grace Lutheran Church, Des Moines, WA has a free collection sermons.

<http://www.sermons4kids.com/>

Lectionary based story and teaching ideas.

#### **f) Church and Society:**

Washington National Cathedral Sunday Forum:

<http://www.nationalcathedral.org/learn/sundayForumArchive.shtml>

Interviews with amazing individuals that focus on "where faith intersects with public life."

[www.nakedpastor.com](http://www.nakedpastor.com)

David Hayward: artist. cartoonist. free-range pastor – interesting blog site.

[www.lutheransconnect.com](http://www.lutheransconnect.com)

Lutherans Connect is an amazing set of blogs that are young adult focused and run by campus ministry in Toronto.

[www.huffingtonpost.com/religion/](http://www.huffingtonpost.com/religion/)

The Religion Section of the Huffington Post site.

#### **g) Miscellaneous & Other Blogs**

[www.Crosswalk.com](http://www.Crosswalk.com)

Christian Living Resources

[www.gotquestions.org](http://www.gotquestions.org)

Biblical questions & answers. Free site is free to use and addresses many basic questions about God, the Bible and living a Spirit-led life. The answers make an apologetic defense (in laymans terms) of biblical teachings. Check out their “Statement of Faith” under “About”; your theological understanding may differ – but this is beautifully laid out. Every congregation’s website should be this clear.

[http://www.progressiveinvolvement.com/progressive\\_involvement/](http://www.progressiveinvolvement.com/progressive_involvement/)

Progressive Involvement: Mostly commentary on American life and politics from ELCA pastor - but early each week creates a wonderful translation and commentary on the gospel for the upcoming Sunday.

[http://reclaimingtheword.typepad.com/are\\_blog\\_index.html](http://reclaimingtheword.typepad.com/are_blog_index.html)

A Renewal Enterprise Blogs – reinventing church.

<http://louisvilleemmaus.com/story00.html>

Christian jokes, etc.

[www.beautytipsforministers.com](http://www.beautytipsforministers.com)

A blog that might be helpful (some people hate it) on pastors, style, image etc.

<http://kevingpowell.blogspot.com/>

Kevin Powell’s notes on worship & text

## **h) Lutheran Sites**

I asked my Lutheran colleagues for help with this set of resources, so I did get some sites that really are Lutheran focused – but I’m sharing them anyway.



<http://lutheranmission.blogspot.com>

Many articles (Lutheran perspective) but also contains things like “communion bread recipes”.

<http://www.sundaysandseasons.com/>

Subscription site with ELCA & ELCIC worship resources – Hymns, Liturgies, seasonal texts, intercessor prayers. Buy this with a license and you are ready for using a projector in worship.